



Laptop Safety

With many people still working remotely and travelling with their electronic devices, laptop theft is on the increase. 24/7 Security Services encourages everyone to follow the below tips to improve laptop security:

Secure Laptop Bag: Place your laptop in a cushioned laptop bag, preferably one that's plain and inconspicuous, so you don't attract unwanted attention. For extra protection, choose a laptop bag with slash-proof fabric and tamper-resistant zippers. If you travel a lot, consider buying a checkpoint-friendly laptop bag that will allow you to stroll through security without taking the laptop out of the bag. Keep the bag on your person or within view at all times.

Get a Security Cable Lock: A cheap anti-theft device, a security cable lock works like a bicycle lock. You loop it around a fixed object, connect it to the laptop and lock it with a combination or a key. If you don't mind spending a little more money, you can buy a high-tech cable lock with a motion sensor system and an alarm. When someone tries to remove the laptop, the movement will trigger the alarm, alerting you of the theft attempt.



Invest in Insurance: A good insurance policy goes a long way. Get a policy that covers theft and loss of personal items. Make sure the coverage will be enough to buy a new laptop and accessories.

Antivirus Software: Using unfamiliar Wi-Fi networks can lead to security breaches. Keep your antivirus software updated and running when you are in public spaces. If possible, avoid shopping online or logging on to your online banking website on a public Wi-Fi network. If you have to do it, always check that your Internet browser shows a URL beginning with 'https' and a padlock icon.

Install Theft Recovery Software: Your chances of getting your stolen laptop back are much higher if you have theft recovery software installed on your computer. This software allows you to locate the laptop so you can have the local authorities retrieve it for you. Good theft recovery software works even if the thief has erased all data and installed a new operating system.

Record Laptop Details: Take down the specifications of your laptop and store it in a safe place. The computer make, model and serial number will come in handy if you have to report a theft. Also, take photos of the laptop, focusing on any distinguishing details, such as scratches and dents.

Backup Your Data: The information stored on a laptop can be more valuable than the laptop itself. So, protect yourself from losing your data by backing it up on a hard drive or in cloud storage online.

Data Encryption: You probably have sensitive information stored on your laptop. Copies of your IDs, your home address, contact details of your associates, personal photographs, banking details - all this information can be used for identity theft if it falls into the wrong hands. You can encrypt your data and use strong passwords to minimise the risk of unauthorised access.

